
W A I N F O R D R U R A L D I S T R I C T

- C O U N C I L -

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H

and the

S A N I T A R Y I N S P E C T O R

For The Year

1951

W A I N F O R D R U R A L D I S T R I C T

C O U N C I L

Annual Report of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for the Year 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of the Wainford Rural District Council:-

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1951.

You will recall that Dr. S. T. G. Gray, Deputy County M.O.H. was acting Medical Officer of Health from the retirement of Dr. H. G. Pedlar on 21st September 1950 until I took up my appointment on 3rd January 1952.

I am indebted to your other officers in the preparation of this report and would like to record my thanks to Mr. Wood the Clerk, Mr. Collins the Sanitary Inspector and Mr. Mayes the departmental clerk in this respect.

The statistics are favourable. The Maternal Mortality rate is nil. The infant mortality rate shows a considerable reduction on the previous year. The death rate is particularly low compared with previous years.

Apart from one case of Acute anterior poliomyelitis there was no outbreak of serious infectious disease. The diphtheria immunisation figures however are not satisfactory as there is a decline in the number of children immunised. This trend is national and local health authorities are intensifying their immunisation campaigns. This is at present being done by the East Suffolk County Council.

I should like to draw attention to the Sections on Water Supply and Sewage Disposal in the Sanitary Inspector's Report. These are important matters in the Rural District.

General Statistics.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44,871 acres
Registrar Generals estimate of population (mid '51)	7,110							
No. of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,058
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£19,910
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£86. 10s.

Vital Statistics.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Live Births	60	73	133
(Illegitimate births)	(-)	(2)	(2)
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	17.3		
Rate per 1,000 population England & Wales	15.5		
Comparability factor	1.10		
Still Births Legitimate.	1	2	3
Still Births Illegitimate.	1	-	1
Rate per 1,000 live births	30.1		
Rate per 1,000 population	.56		
Rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)	.36		

Maternal Mortality. Nil.

<u>Infantile Mortality.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths of Infants under one year	1	2	3
Rate per 1,000 live births	22.5		
Rate per 1,000 live births (England & Wales)	29.6		

Deaths

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population 10.7

Death rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales) 12.5

Comparability factor. 0.83	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths	48	28	76

Causes of Death.

Tuberculosis Respiratory	-	1	1
Syphilitic Disease.	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm stomach	-	1	1
do do lung	2	1	3
do do breast	-	2	2
Other Malignant neoplasms	6	1	7
Diabetes	2	1	3
Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	3
Coronary heart disease, anina	5	-	5
Influenza	2	1	3
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of Nervous system	5	1	6
Other heart diseases.	11	10	21
Other circulatory disease	3	2	5
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Congenital malformations	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined disease	2	1	3
Suicide	1	-	1
Accidents (other than motor)	3	2	5
	48	28	76
1950	(47)	(29)	(76)

Infectious Diseases.

The following cases of infectious disease were notified during the year:-

Pneumonia	3	2	5
Whooping Cough	10	7	17
Measles	1	4	5
Scarlet Fever	-	1	1
Jaundice	1	-	1
Acute Poliomyelities (Paralytic)	-	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	1	1

Notification of all infectious disease was satisfactory.

Tuberculosis.

At the begining of the year there were 24 cases on the register. During 1951 4 new cases were added:-

2 females with pulmonary tuberculosis were inward transfers from Norfolk.
1 male pulmonary tuberculosis was discovered in the Registra Generals
Death return.

During the year three cases were removed from the register.

At the end of the year there were 25 cases on the register:-

Pulmonary:	9 males	5 females.
Non-Pulmonary	4 "	7 "

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The County Medical Officer has kindly supplied the following information:-

Pre-school children immunised	364
Total Number of children immunised	1,035
% pre-school children immunised	51.63
% all children immunised	56.81.
Children receiving 'booster' injections	90.

Comparative figures for the last 3 years:-	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
% pre-school children immunised	65.7	60.0	51.6
% children under 15 immunised	66.6	68.4	56.8

Milk.

The County Council Public Health Staff took samples of milk and of these:-

32 were found to be free from brucella organisms and tubercle bacilli.
1 was found to contain tubercle bacilli.
6 were found to contain brucella organisms.

The milk from the herd from which a sample was found to contain tubercle bacilli was diverted for pasteurisation, meanwhile the Divisional Veterinary Inspector carried out investigations on the herd. No final conclusion however was reached in this case.

Brucella Infection.

Where a sample from a producer's herd was found to contain brucella organisms no further action was taken provided the milk was already being submitted for pasteurisation. In one case it was necessary to divert the milk for pasteurisation, under the Milk & Dairies Regulation, as there was some doubt as to the disposal of some of the milk.

Housing.

32 houses were completed by the authority during the year.

9 houses were built by private enterprise.

Emergency housing continued to be provided in hutments on three Airfield sites at Ellough, Flixton and Holton.

During the year the number of families so housed was reduced from 251 to 212. It is hoped that the reduction will continue.

National Assistance Act, 1948.

It was not found necessary to take any action under Section 47 of this Act.

Factories Act, 1937 and 1948.

The following details have been abstracted from the Annual Report of the Medical Officer submitted to the Minister of Labour & National Service:-

No. of Factories with mechanical power	4
No. of Factories without mechanical power	-
No. of inspections made	4
No. of defects found	-
No. of outworkers	2

Food Poisoning.

No notifications of Food Poisoning were received during the year.

I am Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

J. B. Kershaw,
Medical Officer of Health.



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ANNUAL REPORT of the SANITARY INSPECTOR

For The Year 1951

Wainford Council Offices,
1, Ballygate,
BECCLES.

24th. August 1952.

To the Chairman and Members of,
Wainford Rural District Council.

Mr Chairman and Members,

It is my duty to present my Annual Report for the year 1951. This being the sixth report since my appointment as senior sanitary inspector in April 1946.

The additional sanitary inspector resigned in November 1951 and no successor has been appointed.

At the time of writing this report, changes have occurred in the method of administration as the Council have formed a separate Engineer and Surveyors Department and appointed an Engineer and Surveyor who took up duties on July 1st. 1952.

From that date therefore I have relinquished the duties of Water Works Superintendant, Building Surveyor, Housing Estates Maintenance Officer and Sewage Works Manager and I extend a welcome to Mr H. Shepherd the new officer.

The Minister of Health requires to be supplied with copies of the report of the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector.

Yours faithfully,

W.A. Collins,

Sanitary Inspector.

STAFF

Head Office Staff - Beccles.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor. (Whole Time).

W.A. COLLINS. Cert. S.I.B. and Royal Sanitary Institute Meat and Food Certificate. (Appointed April 1946)

Clerk/Typist (Whole Time)

V.H. MAYES. (Appointed May 1951)

Sub-Office Staff - Holton.

Additional Sanitary Inspector. (Whole Time)

I.S. ARMSTRONG. Cert. S.I.B. (Appointed January 1949
Resigned November 1951)

HOUSING

Existing Housing Conditions.

No. of condemned houses demolished 2

Housing Continued.

No. of condemned houses occupied under licence ...64
No. of houses inspected in 1944/5 and found
not repairable at reasonable cost386

Housing Act 1936, Procedure.

No. of notices served for repairs under Sec.9. .. Nil
No. of demolition orders made under Sec. 11. ... 2

Public Health Act, 1936, Procedure.

No of complaints 8
No. of informal notices served .. 3
No. of informal notices complied
with.. 2
No. of statutory notices served .. Nil
No. of statutory notices complied
with .. Nil

Provision of new Houses by the Council.

No. of houses built prior to 1939 ... 84
No. of houses built 1944/50147
No. of houses built in 1951 32

263

WATER SUPPLY

Quantity.

Water was supplied by cartage to the following parishes at various times and for various reasons such as breakdown of pumping stations, failure of private and public wells etc.:-

St.Michaël, Barsham, Shadingfield, St.Andrew, Mettingham,
St.Cross, Wissett, St.Nicholas and Rumburgh.

Quality.

Fifteen samples of water from private wells were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service. Ten of which were reported as bacterially unsatisfactory or suspicious.

Five samples from the water undertakings mains were submitted for bacterial examination. Two from the Ilketshall S'. Lawrence source were unsatisfactory and three were satisfactory from Holton and Ellough Airfield distribution mains.

The Council as water undertakers took immediate steps in the St. Lawrence case as the yield from the borehole was falling off and a new 6" borehole was sunk on the same site to replace the defective one.

Piped Supplies.

The Council purchased private water installations during the year, viz. at Worlingham Park Estate, Flixton Airfield and Holton Airfield.

At Worlingham Park Estate the existing borehole source was put into reserve on acquisition and a bulk supply taken from Beccles Borough Council.

The Flixton Airfield installation consisted of a booster station, three miles of a combined pumping and distribution main and two elevated steel towers. The Council proceeded to

Water Contd.

lay additional water mains into the parishes of Flixton, St. Cross, Homersfield, St. Margaret. S.E., All Saints and St. Peter which work was almost completed by the end of the year.

The water installation at Holton Airfield was purchased after prolonged negotiations and comprises two boreholes with pumping plants, one 60,000 gallon steel water tower and some of the existing underground water mains. The Council have been running the water works for the last six years as agents for the Ministry of Housing and Local Government primarily for the purpose of supplying the emergency housing sites.

Since the end of 1951 the Council have begun a large contract for extending the water mains into the surrounding parishes.

The Council continue to be responsible for the pumping station, water tower and water mains at Ellough Airfield on behalf of the Ministry of Local Govt. and Housing, for emergency housing and miscellaneous consumers on the Air Ministry property. The bulk supply is taken from Beccles Borough and approximately $1\frac{1}{4}$ million gallons per quarter is boosted and fed back into the Borough in addition to Wainford Council's requirements.

Details of the Council's Public Water Works Supplying Piped Water.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Pumping Capacity</u> <u>(Gals. per hour)</u>	<u>Elevated</u> <u>Storage</u>	<u>Miles of</u> <u>Main</u>	<u>Diameter</u> <u>of main</u>
All Saints.	300	2,000	$\frac{1}{2}$	2"
St. Lawrence.	175	2,000	1	2"
Rumburgh.	300	4,800	2	2"
Holton.	6,000	60,000	1	4"
Flixton.	6,000	90,000	13	3"-6"
Worlingham.	Bulk Supply.	-	$\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$ "

Population and Number of Dwellings with available Supply of Mains Water.

<u>Source & Parish.</u>	<u>Direct Supply</u>		<u>Standpipe Supply</u>	
	<u>No. Houses.</u>	<u>Population.</u>	<u>No. Houses</u>	<u>Population.</u>
<u>Public.</u>				
All Saints.	10	30	20	60
Holton.	88	264	7	21
Rumburgh.	20	60	57	171
St. Lawrence.	16	42	29	87
Worlingham Park.	72	210	-	-
Flixton.	19	57	7	21
<u>Private.</u>				
Ellough Airfield.	31	90	103	309
<u>Totals</u>	256	268	223	669

(Population figures are estimated at three persons per house)

DRAINAGE and SEWERAGE

No new sewers were laid during the year.

The Council acquired by agreement certain existing sewers on the Worlingham Park Estate together with the existing sewage treatment works.

The treatment works referred to are in close proximity to dwellings and aerial nuisance is unavoidable during de-sludging

Drainage & Sewerage Contd.

operations when climatic conditions are unfavourable. At other times smell nuisance is avoided by strict attention to maintenance.

The sludge drying beds do not function satisfactorily as they are constructed in water logged ground and it is imperative that modifications be carried out in order that a satisfactory effluent can be maintained at all seasons of the year.

At Holtön Village three additional private houses and one school were connected to the public foul water sewer. When piped water becomes available in 1952 it will be necessary for the Council to consider the desirability of requiring other houses to be connected to the sewer and if need be, to construct branch sewers.

As sewage works manager I was also responsible to the Council for the functioning of modern continuous flow sedimentation treatment works at Ellough and Flixton Airfields held for emergency housing purposes.

REFUSE COLLECTION and DISPOSAL

General.

In March the refuse collection organisation was simplified by the employment of one contractor instead of three different contractors.

The frequency of collection remains the same, namely a weekly collection at back doors in the parishes of Holton, Worlingham and North Cove which includes 154 emergency housing hutments at Ellough Airfield and 56 emergency housing hutments at Holton Airfield.

A fortnightly front gate collection continues in the remaining 30 parishes including 18 emergency housing hutments at Flixton.

The disposal of refuse is by tipping at Holton and Worlingham at opposite ends of the district and adjacent to the heaviest concentration of population.

During the year one tip at Holton was filled and another dis-used pit acquired in the Holton Park Area which should suffice for several years.

The cost of the refuse service is increasing; the figure at April 1951 being £1,225 per annum.

As the officer responsible for supervising the contractor I can state that there are few Rural Districts in England with the same characteristics which provide such a comprehensive service but it is open to question whether a disproportionate amount is spent on this service when the district lacks other amenities which have more direct bearing on the retention of a satisfied working agricultural population and the health of the rural inhabitants.

MILK SUPPLY

Milk Retailers.

No. of retailer distributors with premises in	
the district	30
No. of retail distributors with premises out	
side the district	4
No. of supplementary licences issued to sell:-	
Pasteurised milk	2
Tuberculin Tested	2

MEAT and OTHER FOODS

General.

The Council have adopted Byelaws controlling the activities of the food handler.

Meat and Other Foods Contd.

No. of retail food shops in the district	27
No. of premises registered for the preparation and sale of meat products	1
No. of prerises registered for the sale of ice-cream	1
No. of shops other than food stores	5

The occasional slaughter of pigs takes place at the registered slaughter house of St. James Hospital, Shipmeadow.

No disease was reported during the year.

